United Nations S/2017/1000

Security Council

Distr.: General
29 November 2017

Original: English

Identical letters dated 28 November 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I am writing to inform you of the recent and deeply disturbing statement made by the Commander of the Iranian Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, Major General Mohammad Ali Jafari. In his statement, Jafari expressed Iran's intentions and actions taken to continue arming Hizbullah, an internationally designated terrorist organization, and reiterated Iran's stated goal of destroying the State of Israel.

In a press conference in Tehran on Thursday, 23 November 2017, Jafari stated that "Hizbullah must be armed to fight against the enemy of the Lebanese nation which is Israel. Naturally they should have the best weapons to protect Lebanon's security. This issue is non-negotiable." Jafari added: "It is a proven claim that today we say any new war will lead to the eradication of the Zionist regime. They have seen a part of the resistance front's power during the 33-day and 22-day wars and today that the great resistance front has been formed, this word has been proven."

This statement constitutes yet another example of Iran's dangerous motivations and capacity to destabilize the region. In violation of Security Council resolutions, Iran continues to arm and support terror organizations' activities throughout the Middle East. Iran does not hide its involvement in Lebanon, including its relentless supplying of arms and related materials to Hizbullah in support of the terror organization's destructive aims. Iran's activities violate numerous Security Council resolutions egregiously, including resolution 2231 (2015), which explicitly prohibits the supply, sale or transfer of arms and related materiel from Iran; resolution 1701 (2006), which prohibits the sale or supply of arms and related materiel to Lebanon except as authorized by its Government; and resolution 1559 (2004).

In addition, Jafari's comments follow recent threats against Israel by the leadership of Hizbullah and of Iran, as detailed in recent reports of the Secretary-General regarding the implementation of resolutions 1701 (2006) and 1559 (2004). The credibility of those threats, as well as of Iran's commitment to continue to arm Hizbullah, is directly connected to Hizbullah's massive, unchecked and continuous military build-up in Lebanon. They can be seen neither in isolation from each other, nor in a vacuum.

Hizbullah has amassed over 100,000 rockets and missiles, many of which have the range to target all of Israel. Hizbullah terrorists have stationed them among the civilian population in southern Lebanon.

17-21169 (E) 011217

Please recycle

The Security Council must condemn Iran and Hizbullah for continuing to violate resolution 1701 (2006) and must hold Iran accountable for its repeated violations of resolution 2231 (2015).

The Council must also demand that the Government of Lebanon abide by its obligations and fully implement resolution 1701 (2006) by preventing the illegal transfer of arms and related materiel to Hizbullah.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Danny **Danon**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative